A Halfbaked Aarinfantasy Scanlation

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ななひかり

Nanahikari

The literal meaning is 'seven lights.'
It comes from the Japanese saying, 'Oya no hikari wa nanahikari,'
which translates as 'A parent's light is as good as seven lights.'
In other words, the child of a famous parent will be able
to bask in the glow of their parent's fame.

ななひかり
高口里純
1
SATOSUMI TAKAGUCHI PRESENTS
CHARA COMICS
Chara
COMICS
NANAHIKARI
1
高口里純
徳間書店

My father has died...
My father was the actor Mizuho Kazumitsu

YAWWWN!
THAT'S MY OPINION
Despite knowing the news were doing pretty well...
GOOD RIDDANCE!
AAAAH! HE'S DEAD, HE'S DEAD
Since my mother's been separated three times already
I wonder if that's why I don't feel much for him either...
Why does she say that?
(Live broadcast: Mourning Kazumitsu's funeral scene)
YOU KNOW, THERE'S A HUGE NUMBER OF PEOPLE PAYING THEIR RESPECTS, M-MM!

Despite being such a notorious playboy
My father was only married once.
HOHOHO
THE FOOL!
HE WAS A VORACIOUS WOMANIZER!
THAT ONE, TOO
AH HE'S SLEPT WITH THIS ACTRESS!
STOP COMPARING YOURSELF TO A GEISHA!
EVEN THOUGH YOUR MAMA TRANSFORMS HERSELF INTO A BUTTERFLY OF THE NIGHT TO BRING YOU UP!
NEVER MIND THAT, HIKARU! YOU'VE FRITTERED AWAY THE MONEY FOR YOUR TUITION FEE AGAIN, HAVEN'T YOU?
I'LL PAY IT BACK LATER.
WHEN I'M OLD ENOUGH TO HOLD DOWN A JOB

I've lived with my mother all my life so I've never been in need of anything
Put away your manga when you've finished reading!
You always... leave them lying around!
Making out in a hotel room costs so much!
DATING EXPENSES.
WHAT HAVE YOU SPENT IT ON?
BRRRR
But that's all in the distant past, isn't it?
I remember nding on my father's shoulders into the sunset

下小倉法律事務所*
YES?
I'M NANAMURA.
HUH? YOU'RE AN ATTORNEY?
Yeah...?
I'M INDEBTED TO YOUR FATHER. HE WAS A VALUED CLIENT OF MINE
PLEASE ACCEPT MY CONDOLENCES ON THIS SAD OCCASION
THE TRUTH IS...
I WISH TO DISCUSS YOUR FATHER'S AFFAIRS.
WOULD YOU BE SO KIND AS TO PAY A VISIT TO MY OFFICE?

* Shimogura Law Office

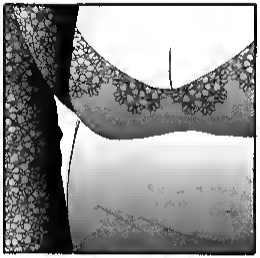
WHY ME?
You're his son, Hikaru-kun, correct?
I'd like you to come alone, so we may speak in private.
Nanamura Hikaru-kun.
.....
DID YOU HAVE TROUBLE... FINDING YOUR WAY TO MY OFFICE?
弁護士*
下小倉 洋音
SHIMOGURA...

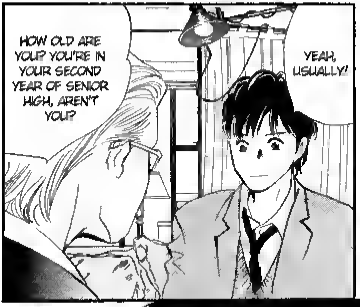
*Attorney-at-law
Shimogura Hirone

PLEASE TAKE A SEAT.
OHH, IT'S HIRONE-SAN
HIRO.
THE KANJI ARE READ AS HIRONE.
TAKE A SEAT
WHY, THANK YOU.
YOU'RE GOOD-LOOKING.
WHAT IS IT?
YOU'RE THE SPITTING IMAGE OF KAZUMITSU-SAN, YOU KNOW.

I DON'T LOOK ANYTHING LIKE MY FATHER.
I SEE!
HMMPH.
I REALLY RESEMBLE MY MOTHER.
NO WAY!
I DON'T EVEN REMEMBER HIM WELL ANYMORE...
PLUS I'VE GOT NO IDEA HOW MANY YEARS IT'S BEEN SINCE HE AND MY MOTHER DIVORCED.
HERE'S YOUR COFFEE

WAS THAT PART OF THE SERVICE?
AMAZING VIEW!

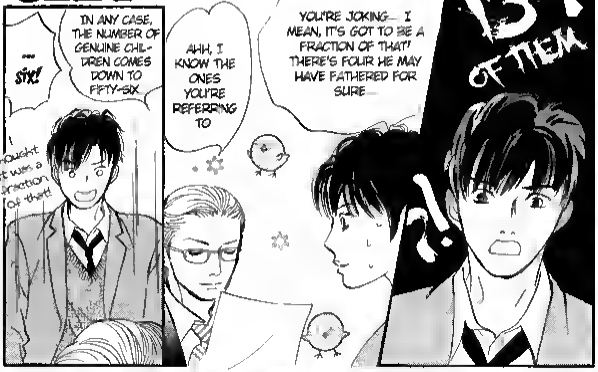



HOW OLD ARE YOU? YOU'RE IN YOUR SECOND YEAR OF SENIOR HIGH, AREN'T YOU?
YEAH, USUALLY!

YOU LIKE VOLUP-TUOUS LADIES?

THAT'S RIGHT AND I'M 17 YEARS OLD
I LIKE WOMEN WITH LOTS OF CURVES READING MANGA AND PLAYING THE PIANO

I WISH TO INFORM YOU.
THAT YOUR FATHER HAS SEVERAL SECRET ILLEGITIMATE CHILDREN.
BUT I AM HEALTHY!
I'VE GOT NO SERIOUS ILLNESSES AND I'VE SLEPT WITH GIRLS BEFORE!
YOU SOUND LIKE A NORMAL HEALTHY BOY
ONE HUNDRED AND THIRTY FOUR IN TOTAL CLAIM HIM AS THEIR BIOLOGICAL FATHER.


134 OF THEM
YOU'RE JOKING... I MEAN, IT'S GOT TO BE A FRACTION OF THAT! THERE'S FOUR HE MAY HAVE FATHERED FOR SURE...
?!
AHH, I KNOW THE ONES YOU'RE REFERRING TO
IN ANY CASE, THE NUMBER OF GENUINE CHILDREN COMES DOWN TO FIFTY-SIX.
... SIX!
I THOUGHT IT WAS A FRACTION OF THAT!

HANG ON!
HOW COME SO MANY OF THE OTHERS WERE FAKES?
TO BE SO SURPRISINGLY UNRUFFLED ABOUT THE REMAINING FIGURE...
IS A LITTLE MEAN-SPIRITED OF YOU.

ARE YOU ANGRY?
WHOMP
I'M NOT ANGRY
IT OCCURRED TO ME THAT I'VE NEVER FELT MEAN-SPIRITED TOWARDS ANY ADULT EXCEPT MY MOTHER
THE REMAINING ILLEGITIMATE CHILDREN HAVE BEEN LEGALLY RECOGNIZED AS THE OFFSPRING OF YOUR FATHER

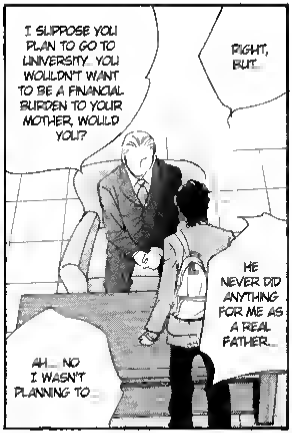
ERR?
That's them?
AND EIGHT OF THEM...
ARE BOYS
YOU'VE BEEN REQUESTED BY YOUR LATE FATHER TO HAVE A CHAT WITH THESE BOYS ONLY
YOU SHOULD ENSURE YOUR MOTHER IS KEPT IN THE DARK ABOUT THESE INTERVIEWS...
YOUR MOTHER DOESN'T KNOW, DOES SHE?

HAHA. MY STOMACH HURTS.
YOU'VE LOST ME ALREADY.
THE MAIN QUESTION IS HOW WE GO ABOUT THIS

IT APPEARS THAT IN YOUR FATHER'S WILL—
YOU AND I HAVE BEEN NAMED AS CO-EXECUTORS OF HIS ESTATE. YOUR APPOINTED TASK IS TO ADMINISTER THE DISTRIBUTION OF HIS REMAINING PROPERTY TO EACH OF HIS SONS

NO OTHER PERSON MAY UNDERTAKE THIS TASK EXCEPT YOU.
YOU'RE THE LEGITIMATE SON OF THE MIZUHO CLAN, CORRECT?
YOU MEAN ME?
WHAT DID HE PICK ME FOR?
IN THAT CASE THE WILL STATES THAT YOU AND YOUR MOTHER WILL NOT RECEIVE YOUR ALLOCATED SHARE OF THE INHERITANCE.
WHAT IF I TURN IT DOWN?
THAT'S WHY YOUR FATHER WENT TO GREAT PAINS TO BEQUEATH YOU AND YOUR MOTHER A MOST GENEROUS SUM.
YOU'RE NOT AN ADULT YET, HIKARU-KUN.
WE'D GET NOTHING...?

IN THAT CASE, PLEASE TAKE THE TIME TO DISCUSS THE POSSIBILITY OF THE INHERITANCE ALONE WITH YOUR MOTHER.
HE... MY FATHER...
I SUPPOSE HE PREFERRED WORK INSTEAD OF STUDY, TOO.


I SUPPOSE YOU PLAN TO GO TO UNIVERSITY. YOU WOULDN'T WANT TO BE A FINANCIAL BURDEN TO YOUR MOTHER, WOULD YOU?
RIGHT, BUT...
HE NEVER DID ANYTHING FOR ME AS A REAL FATHER...
AH... NO I WASN'T PLANNING TO...

AFTER THAT, YOU'LL BE ABLE TO MAKE AN INFORMED DECISION.
下小倉法律事務所
.....

I'D DEFINITELY TAKE IT ALL!
FOR US?
HUH?
AN INHERITANCE?
WELL, AT THE TIME OF THE DIVORCE WE RECEIVED A LOT AS WELL...
ahaha
But I went on a wild shopping spree and we ended up broke!
You didn't keep it a secret?
JUST IMAGINE...
IMAGINE IF IT WERE TRUE
IF WE WERE GIVEN AN INHERITANCE I'D STOP WORKING I'D LIKE TO TAKE IT EASY!
.....
OH YES THAT MAN'S INFIDELITY WAS WHAT STARTED MY EXTRAVAGANT SPENDING HABITS!
NOW WHEN I THINK ABOUT IT, WHAT WE RECEIVED AT THE TIME WAS NOWHERE NEAR ENOUGH!

REALLY, I'VE HAD MORE THAN ENOUGH NOW!
NOOO!
BUT HE'S BEEN A STRANGER TO US FOR AGES NOW
AND BESIDES, SUCH SWEET OFFERS NEVER DO ROLL OUR WAY
DIDN'T YOU TELL ME ONCE THAT YOU ENJOYED YOUR WORK?
I'M TIRED AND SLEEPY THESE DAYS, SO HURRY UP AND BECOME AN ADULT! EARN AN INCOME TO SUPPORT THE HOUSEHOLD!
YOUR MAMA'S NOT GETTING ANY YOUNGER, YOU KNOW!
Seriously??
TEN MILLION YEN!
TO PAY OFF OUR DEBTS.
The outlay for the grand opening of my new business!
ENOUGH FOR WHAT?
AHH!
EVEN IF YOU DID IT STILL WOULDN'T BE ENOUGH.

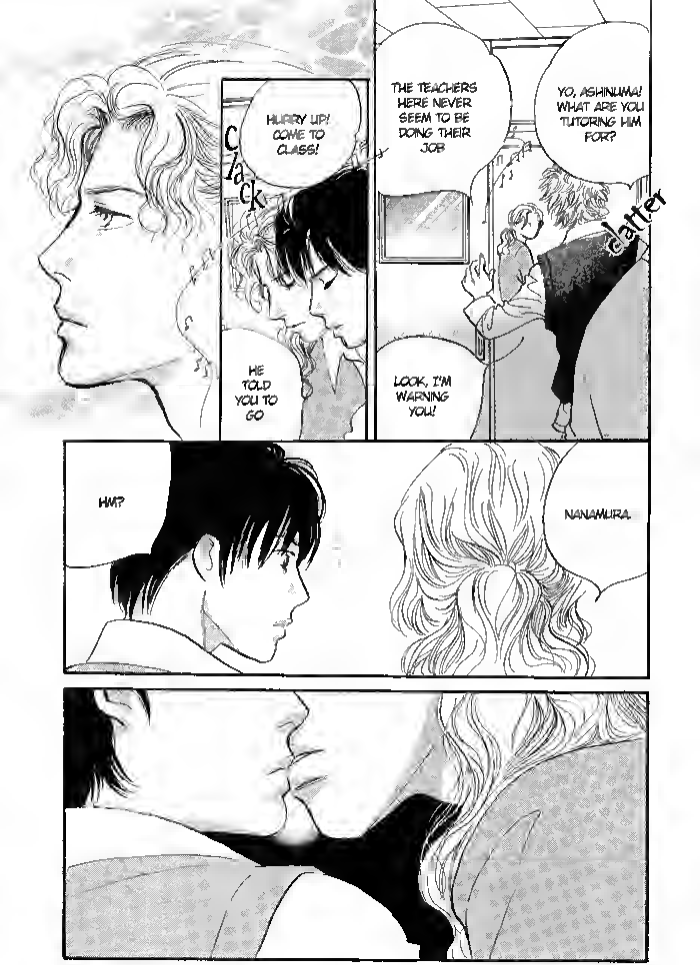
DING
DONG
So that's where we stand...?
step
step
step
step

clatter
fumble
THIS ISN'T A GOOD PLACE TO PRACTICE. THE OTHER DAY, A SOCCER BALL FLEW IN HERE AND SMASHED THE PIANO KEYS.
HM?
HEMPA!
DO YOU EVER GO TO THE FIRST MUSIC ROOM WHEN YOU FEEL LIKE PLAYING MUSIC?
NO, ANYWHERE BUT THERE
I CAN'T ENTER THAT ROOM USING MY STUDENT CARD.
USE MINE.

CHEAPSKATE!
I'M NOT GIVING UP MY CARD
CLOUDS
IN EXCHANGE, GIVE ME YOUR CARD.
BUT AREN'T YOU GOING TO NEED THIS UNTIL YOU GRADUATE...?

*Student Card
Ashinuma Ushio

YOU ENJOY BOSSING OTHERS AROUND THAT'S BASICALLY IT
BUT YOU'RE MY SEMPAI!
I'VE TOLD YOU BEFORE TO CALL ME LISHIO
FINE THEN. PLAY SOMETHING WITH ME
WATCH THAT CHEEKY MOUTH OF YOURS
SHOW SOME RESPECT FOR YOUR SEMPAI.
YOU'RE THE MOST ARROGANT
CHOPIN!
ALL RIGHT, I'LL PLAY CHOPIN!
KEEP IT DOWN!
OWW!
THAT'S THE ONLY THING I KNOW!


YO, ASHINUMA! WHAT ARE YOU TUTORING HIM FOR?
THE TEACHERS HERE NEVER SEEM TO BE DOING THEIR JOB
clatter
LOOK, I'M WARNING YOU!
HURRY UP! COME TO CLASS!
Clack
HE TOLD YOU TO GO
NANAMURA
HM?

CLACK
DING DONG
.....
YOU CAN'T BE SERIOUS?! YOU'RE DATING HIM!
KYAAA!!
EH? IS SHE?

ARE WE GOING HOME TOGETHER?
WHERE HAVE YOU BEEN? TAKING PART IN CLUB ACTIVITIES?
Hikaru-chan is so cute!
But he's so obviously younger than her
HIKARU?
OH, NAZUNA! YOUR LITTLE BOYFRIEND'S HERE...
No way! Is this for real?
TELL ME WHAT'S ON YOUR MIND!!
NOOOO
EHH?! Oh noooo!
I knew she'd react like this
LIH OH
YOU WANT TO HAVE A PRIVATE CHAT WITH ME, HUH?
HEY, CAN I ASK YOU SOMETHING?

HEY! THEY SAY THERE'S BEEN HEAPS OF REPORTERS WAITING AT THE SCHOOL GATE!
OHHH! WHAT FOR?
SOMETHING ABOUT A RUMOR...
THAT THE SON OF MIZUHO KAZUMITSU IS AT THIS SCHOOL!
YOU'RE KIDDING!
MIMURA-KUN WAS RUMORED TO BE ONE THREE YEARS AGO!
ISHIDA-SAN, TOO!
YEAH! THERE WAS GOSSIP ABOUT ASHIKUMA-KUN SOME TIME AGO AS WELL!

WELL, THERE'S TONS OF GORGEOUS GUYS IN THIS SCHOOL!
Let's take a look!
HANG ON, HIKARU!
THAT GOES FOR YOU, TOO! STOP GIVING OFF PHEROMONES THAT MAKE OUR PANTIES WET!
Or they'll start gossiping about you, too!
?
MAKE YOUR PANTIES WET?
YOU HAD NO IDEA, HUH?
really, you're such a child
NAZU-NA.

DOES ASHINUMA-SEMPAI
HAVE A GIRL-FRIEND?
THAT STUD!
LOOK, THAT FLIRTATIOUS MANNER OF HIS HAS LEFT MANY GIRLS IN TEARS
BUT I BELIEVE HE'S NEVER SETTLED FOR ONE GIRL IN PARTICULAR!
Someone here's a bit slow on the uptake!
In tears?
HEY!
WHAT ARE YOU WORRYING ABOUT HIM FOR?
JUST A MOMENT
A MOMENT?

STOP IT, NAZUNA!
tickle
I'M NIBBLING YOUR CHIN!
OOH!
lick
UNLESS YOU TELL ME WHAT'S GOING ON!
WHAT'S ASHIKUMA DONE TO YOU?!
HE KISSED ME!
HM?
Teeth marks

Well, that's the way it is
My whole life is turning weird
But I'm not going to help out that attorney whatever happens
YEAH, MAMA?
DID YOU JUST CALL?
I'm at a Shinjuku hotel right now.
WHO?
You see, I said I was staying here overnight, but I've decided to return home.
I've got lots of bags so I'll call someone to pick me up.
HMMPH.
Why do you ask? Mama's old friends in Tokyo will come to her aid, you know!
There's nothing to hmmph about!
ERR... I'LL DROP BY THERE NOW TO HELP YOU...

But I've got lots of bags! I'll call someone to pick me up!
I'm at K Hotel, room number 2332.
NO, DON'T BOTHER. I'LL COME AROUND---
~CLICK~
Come to think of it
Wasn't that attorney's office in the same area?
BEEP BEEP
BEEP BEEP

WOOSH
BUP
KACHIK

EEEK?!
!
Him?
dash
!

LUAN.

TODAY...
I WAS ABOUT TO HEAD OVER TO YOUR OFFICE...
This is awkward.
ARE YOU COMING WITH ME NOW?
THAT'S FINE.

HEH HEH...
AHH, RIGHT! I'LL GO WITH YOU...
?

glance
DON'T GIVE ME
THAT KIND OF LOOK
WHAT KIND OF LOOK?

IF YOU DON'T, THEN I'LL HAVE TO ASSUME YOU'RE NOT RIDING IN THIS LIFT FOR A TYPICAL LEGAL CONSULTATION.

WHAT MADE YOU COME HERE TODAY?
ching

I SEE.
YOUR MOTHER?
MY MOTHER'S STAYING AT THIS HOTEL.
ACTUALLY, SHE CALLED ME TO COME OVER.
THEY CAME TO MY SCHOOL.
THAT REMINDS ME PLEASE TAKE A GREAT DEAL OF CARE TO AVOID THE MEDIA.
THEN AGAIN, I DID CHANGE MY FAMILY NAME TO THE ONE MY MOTHER USED DURING HER LAST MARRIAGE, AND THE ONE I HAD BEFORE THAT WAS A NAME USED BY AN ADOPTED DAUGHTER ON MY MOTHER'S SIDE OF THE FAMILY.
I'VE NEVER BEEN EXPOSED BY THEM THOUGH.
DID THEY REALLY?

I SHOULD BE S...FE...
AND TO TOP IT OFF, I LOOK NOTHING LIKE HIM!
I THINK...
pull
YOU'VE GOT A HABIT OF PUCKERING YOUR UPPER LIP.
ARE YOU A SMOKER?

KEEP MOUTHING OFF LIKE A FOOL, AND YOU'LL FIND YOURSELF IN BIG TROUBLE.
IF A KEEN-EYED OBSERVER CAUGHT SIGHT OF YOU
YOU'D BE EXPOSED AT ONCE.
A smoker?
What's he talking about?
Eh?!

下小倉法律事務所
And what's with that tone of voice?
Geez, that man...
I'LL DO IT
YOU'LL UNDERTAKE THE RESPONSIBILITIES OF CO-EXECUTOR AS STATED IN YOUR FATHER'S WILL, CORRECT?
SO,

GOOD. WHEN YOU CAME TO YOUR SENSES, YOU DECIDED TO TIDY UP YOUR FAMILY'S DEBTS
YOU KNEW ABOUT THEM ALL ALONG.
I THOUGHT SO
NATURALLY I WOULDN'T BE DOING MY JOB OTHERWISE, CORRECT?
IT MAKES NO DIFFERENCE TO ME.

SO I'M MEANT TO...
GIVE YOU REGULAR UPDATES ON MY PROGRESS, SHIMOGURA-SAN?
HERE
side
THE INFORMATION ON THE OTHER BOYS. PLEASE TAKE IT.
YES.
WITHIN THE ENVELOPE ARE OFFICIAL DOCUMENTS EACH OF THE BOYS ARE EXPECTED TO SIGN. PLEASE EXPLAIN THE SITUATION TO THEM AND BEGIN ACQUIRING THEIR SIGNATURES.
UNDERSTOOD.
ABOUT... THAT THING EARLIER...

ABOUT YOUR UPPER LIP, YOU MEAN?
FROM NOW ON.
YOU WON'T SAY SUCH WEIRD THINGS TO ME, ALL RIGHT?
Hey, I find it annoy-ing!
CLATTER

?
stretch
UHN!
Wha...!?

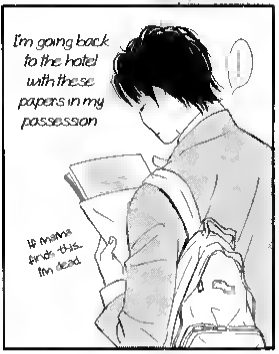
Can it be—

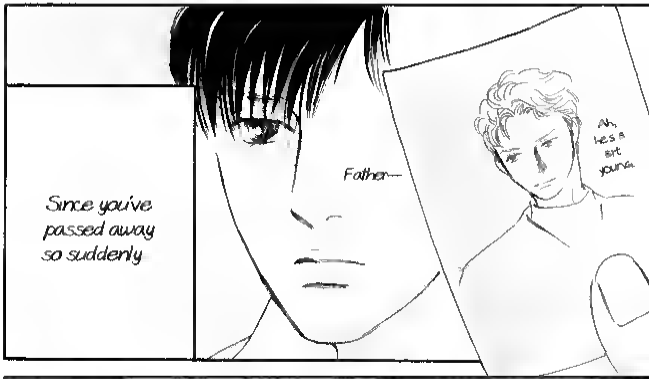
...that I'm being kissed yet again?!

BOTH YOUR MOTHER AND YOUR LATE FATHER.
AND YOUR EIGHT HALF-BROTHERS.
WE'RE ALL DEPENDING ON YOU.
SNATCH

UGGH!

Flutter


I'm going back to the hotel with these papers in my possession
If Mama finds this, I'm dead


Since you've passed away so suddenly
Father—
Ah, he's a bit young.

...for me to bask in the spotlight.
...it looks like it's time...
Holding within his hand a little secret he must keep from his ..... Hikaru takes ... step forward on the road to independence!
Chara
TBC

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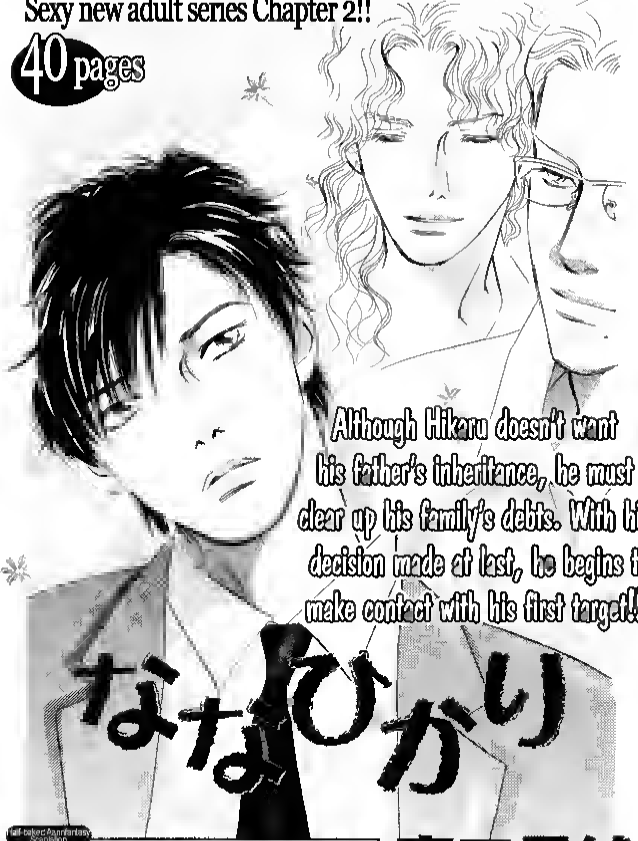
A boy's appeal blossoms under the influence of older men.
Sexy new adult series Chapter 2!!

40 pages


Although Hikaru doesn't want his father's inheritance, he must clear up his family's debts. With his decision made at last, he begins to make contact with his first target!!
ななひかり

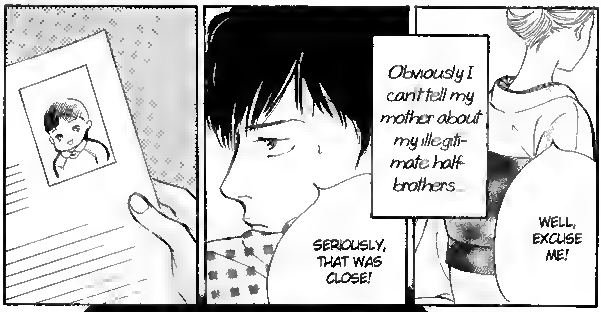
Tall-tales Romantic Comedy

NANAHIKARI 高口里純

SATOSUMI TAKAGUCHI PRESENTS

My father, a popular actor, has died.
It seems that my thrice-divorced mother and I will reap the benefit of an inheritance, but...
First I have to fulfill the terms of my father's will.
Geez, there's eight of them?
I've learned that my father has eight illegitimate sons.
Nanamura Hikaru (17) Second year senior high school student Parents divorced when he was age 3 Father was popular actor Mitsuho Kazumitsu For his age has a cool character with a dry sense of humor
Shimogura Heroine Attorney in charge of the valuable estate left by Hikaru's father. He has teased Hikaru from their first meeting. He's gay, enigmatic and a man of strong personality.

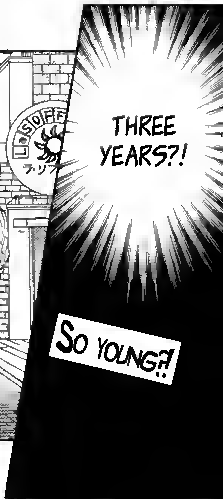
I wonder who'll visit first.
I'll focus on getting this awful job out of the way as soon as I can.
You're to meet each of your eight half-brothers in person. Their signatures are required for these documents relating to the distribution of your father's estate.
These are the terms dictated in your father's will.
As his only legitimate son, I, Nanamura Hikaru, age 17, have been instructed
I don't want the inheritance, but
Waah!
Breakfast time! You'll be late for school!
Slam
Err. It's a bit complicated
You're up early this morning!
Oh dear! Was it a bad time to call you for breakfast?
I've discovered my family has debts


Obviously I can't tell my mother about my illegitimate half-brothers...
SERIOUSLY, THAT WAS CLOSE!
WELL, EXCUSE ME!

THIS BOY'S THREE YEARS OLD...

Why must I do this?
Ahh

So what's his address?


THREE YEARS?!
SO YOUNG?!

LOUD
News scoop!
The secret offspring of late actor Mizuho Kazumitsu!
I don't even remember my father well but it's up to me to settle his affairs
Will I be exposed?!
You bugging me with more questions?
Yes, but...
I know, but...
It's inevitable that rumors like this crop up, Hikaru-kun.

YES, THAT'S FINE.
IF YOU'RE FEELING ANXIOUS, WHY DON'T YOU COME BY MY OFFICE THIS EVENING?
THE TRUE STORY HASN'T BEEN LEAKED, OF COURSE
DON'T WORRY ABOUT IT.
DON'T...
SO WHO SHOULD I SEE FIRST?
DON'T VISIT HIM?
HUH?
NO, THAT'S FINE.

HE'S A SEX-MANIAC LAWYER!
SNAP
AHA! HERE'S THE APART-MENT
I'm not turning back after coming all this way
BUMP

I HOPE HE DIDN'T STAIN YOUR CLOTHES
SORRY!

KEI!
DON'T DO THAT!

She's so young
THIS HERE IS A MAN
MY CLOTHES DON'T MATTER

MY BOO BOO

BUT YOUR MAMA'S THE ONE WHO TAKES CARE OF YOU...
SEE?

DING DONG
NANAMURA, ARE YOU IN HERE?
I THOUGHT MAYBE YOU'D TAKEN A BREAK.
WHAT'S WRONG?
SHOULD I CALL FOR NAZUNA?

YEAH? WHAT'S BROUGHT THIS ON?
NO, I WANT TO BE ON MY OWN.
A SENSE OF NOSTALGIA.
I'M ALRIGHT.
I FEEL SO LONELY
LIKE I'VE LOST SOMETHING IMPORTANT, AND I'LL NEVER GET IT BACK
THERE NOW...

I USED TO THINK I PREFERRED GIRLS...
NOW THAT YOU'RE SO CLOSE TO ME...
I THINK I'M FALLING FOR YOU.
BUT HEARING YOU ADMIT YOU'RE LONELY CHANGES EVERYTHING. THE TRUTH IS THOSE ARE THE WORDS I'VE BEEN LONGING TO HEAR.
YEAH.
I...
I SAID I WAS FEELING LONELY BUT WHAT I MEANT...
BUT I WANT TO TOUCH YOU SO MUCH

MM...
YOU MEAN— THAT TIME YOU KISSED ME
FROM NOW ON, NAZLINA'S GOT COMPETITION. I'M GOING TO WIN YOU OVER.
ARE YOU
Ouch!
SHOCK
Teeth marks
You bit me!

SO I'VE MADE A GOOD IMPRESSION, HUH?
SEMPAI, YOU SEEM LIKE A COOL GUY... RIGHT?
WHAT DO YOU FEEL FOR ME?
WHAT ABOUT YOU?
FROM NOW ON, COME TO ME WHEN YOU FEEL LONELY I'LL BE EVERYTHING YOU NEED, NANAMURA.
SLAM

Brrrr
RYOU-KA!
TEXT ME IF YOU FIND ANYTHING, ALL RIGHT?
TV reporter Kamahori Yoriko
HMM...
TODAY I'M DEFINITELY GOING TO LOCATE THE SON OF MIZUHO KAZUMITSU.
IN THAT CASE...
YEAH, KAMA-CHAN? SO THAT'S WHY YOU WANTED TO RETURN.
THERE'S STILL A FEW MORE MINUTES BEFORE SCHOOL ENDS FOR THE DAY, RIGHT?
There's more to this than gossip. There's enough evidence to suggest the existence of a genuine son.
Although the speculation about his love-child is the talk of the town
Naturally he'll become a topic of intense media interest
and a showbusiness professional won't be left alone for long
The son of a handsome actor

I've got an eye for physical beauty
So I won't take any shortcuts. I'll inspect every student coming out of this school until the very last one leaves.
AH, ARE THEY LEAVING SCHOOL NOW?
HIKARU-CHAN!
SHALL WE GO TO STARBUCKS?
WERE YOU LATE FOR SCHOOL THIS MORNING? LIKE ME, HUH?
WHAT'S WRONG? ARE YOU GOING HOME? WHAT'S THE RUSH?
NAZUNA, THERE'S SOMETHING I NEED TO SORT OUT WITH ASHINUMA-SEMPAI.
MM... I WISH I COULD, BUT...

Wow!
.....
Hmm?
This boy's got great looks!
WHAT'S HE PLANNING TO DO WITH YOU THIS TIME?
HAS HE KISSED YOU AGAIN?
HE DECLARED HIS FEELINGS FOR ME
But there's something about him that's caught my attention
Judging by his facial features alone, I can't see a clear resemblance
WHA--!

S-S-SO WHAT ABOUT YOU, HIKARU-CHAN!?
NO... I MEAN...
I DON'T FEEL THE SAME FOR HIM AT ALL.
I GET IT!
YOU SHOT HIM DOWN WITH A SWIFT REBUFF!
Did you answer him? Huh?
ARGH!
This woman again!!
HOLD ON, BOTH OF YOU.
DO YOU KNOW OF THE ACTOR MIZUHO KAZUMITSU?
HE DIED RECENTLY, BUT...
HOLD IT, LADY!
THERE'S NO WAY THAT HIKARU-CHAN IS THE SON OF [illegible]... SO STOP HOUNDING US!
GOT THAT?

Woah!
HEY, I JUST WANT A CLOSE LOOK AT HIM!
HANG ON!
Shove
Flawless skin!
IDIOM
CRAZY
PERVERT!
Wow! He's really something in close-up
Eyebrows
That boy's got a certain aura about him
Different to the magnetic allure of a handsome man
Something even more mysterious
OOH!

RRRRR
I waited but you didn't turn up. Please call me again for a consultation anytime.
Shimogumi.

But it's just that—
I should visit them again and get the papers signed tomorrow.

I APPRECIATE YOU TAKING THE TIME TO MEET ME. I'M JUST HERE TO GET YOUR SIGNATURE FOR MY FATHER'S LEGAL DOCUMENTS.
BZZT
I SEE.
SO YOU'RE MIZUHO-SAN'S
AH, EXCUSE ME A MOMENT!
HELLO?
Right, I arrived early today.
Ni-tan!
If we're related by blood, then we really are brothers
NII-TAN?
THAT'S RIGHT!

*1 Ni-tan: older brother - a child's polite way to address an older male. A mispronounced version of Ni-san/Nii-san.

RIGHT! DONG DONG DODONG!
Dong dong!
DO YOU LIKE THE PIANO?
I like dodong!
I like singing too!
His hands are tiny
WELL, HOW ABOUT YOU SING ALONG WHILE YOUR NII-TAN PLAYS THE PIANO?
Uh-huh! Let's Sing 'Under the Big Chest-nut Tree!'*
I KNOW IT WOULD BENEFIT US GREATLY TO TAKE PART IN DISCUSSIONS ABOUT AN INHERITANCE.
Mama!
MY SON'S NOT A SHY ONE
BUT I CAN'T ACCEPT THIS MONEY.

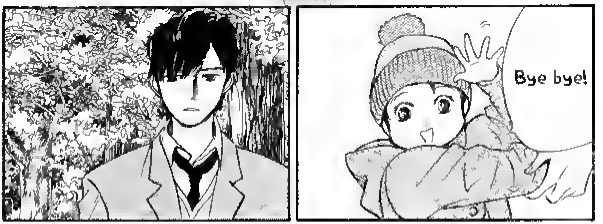
*TL note. Popular Japanese children's song.

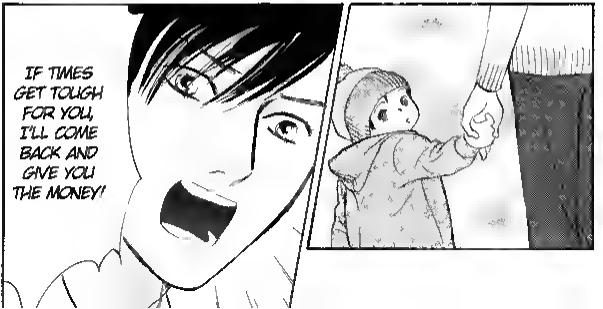
MY SON, KEI...
HE'S NOT KAZUMITSU-SAN'S CHILD
WHY NOT?
BECAUSE YOUR FATHER WAS SWEET AND KIND TO ME, I FOUND MYSELF DRAWN TO HIM
AND I WAS WORKING AS AN ASSISTANT STYLIST AT THE TIME
I HAD JUST FINISHED TECHNICAL COLLEGE
I WONDER IF I WAS ATTRACTED TO HIM OUT OF LONELINESS RATHER THAN LOVE
WITH BOTH PARENTS DEAD, I WAS ALL ON MY OWN I HAD NO CHOICE BUT TO LEARN TO FEND FOR MYSELF
FOR WHEN I LATER MET SOMEONE I TRULY LOVED, I FELT QUITE ASHAMED ABOUT CHEATING ON YOUR FATHER.

BELIEVE ME, I KNOW
I KNOW
BUT
THEN YOU CAN'T SAY FOR SURE THAT MY FATHER ISN'T THE FATHER OF YOUR CHILD
I USED TO THINK THAT WHEN MY SON WAS BORN, THE MEDIA WOULD BE AFTER US.
SO I MADE THE DECISION TO LEAVE YOUR FATHER.
EVEN THOUGH I CHEATED ON HIM, I WAS STILL GRATEFUL FOR ALL HE HAD DONE FOR ME
SO YOU SEE, I CAN'T ACCEPT AN INHERITANCE FROM HIM.
BECAUSE I DON'T HAVE ANY RIGHT TO HIS FORTUNE

WOULDN'T THE MONEY HELP YOU? ACCORDING TO MY FATHER, YOU'RE ENTITLED TO RECEIVE A SHARE
YOUR MOTHER...
I DON'T MEAN TO BE IMPOLITE, BUT ISN'T IT DIFFICULT FOR THE TWO OF YOU TO MANAGE ON YOUR OWN?
UMM...
SHE DID AN EXCELLENT JOB BRINGING YOU UP ON HER OWN, DIDN'T SHE?
WELL, SHE...
SHE DID RECEIVE SOME SORT OF SETTLEMENT AFTER THE DIVORCE
ANYWAY... I THINK IT'S IN YOUR BEST INTEREST TO ACCEPT THE MONEY.
THANK YOU
FORGIVE ME FOR TURNING IT DOWN

SAY BYE BYE TO ONICHAN
KEI ISN'T YOUR YOUNGER BROTHER.


Bye bye!


IF TIMES GET TOUGH FOR YOU, I'LL COME BACK AND GIVE YOU THE MONEY!

BYE BYE, KEI!
I'LL SET ASIDE A PORTION OF IT FOR KEI!
Kazumitsu's boy
So that's
but in his features I could see the eyes of his father
I know nothing about him,

Maybe living with my mother became too painful at the time
But
My father was absent while I grew up
I never considered how it must've hurt you to leave us I'm sorry
Father
rattle
rattle
YOU WERE ON YOUR WAY OUT
DID YOU FORGET SOMETHING?

HIKARU-KUN!
I'VE BEEN WAITING FOR YOU TO GET IN TOUCH WITH ME FOR SOME TIME
ARE YOU GOING HOME NOW?
SORRY...
I CAME WITHOUT AN APPOINTMENT.
HERE.

ACCORDING TO HER, MY FATHER'S NOT THE FATHER OF HER CHILD.
SHE WOULDN'T ACCEPT THE INHERITANCE
BUT THERE'S NO SIGNATURE
WHAT ARE YOU CRYING FOR?
HIKARU-KUN?
THAT'S NOT IT, I MEAN...
ARE YOU UPSET THAT YOUR FATHER WAS DECEIVED?

I CAN'T...
GO HOME LIKE THIS
HOW ABOUT YOUR GIRL-FRIEND'S PLACE?
I CAN'T JUST TURN UP AT HER DOORSTEP AND ASK TO STAY OVERNIGHT
YOU'VE BEEN INSTILLED WITH GOOD MANNERS.
HOW ABOUT A CLOSE FRIEND?
THAT'S GETTING TOO CLOSE FOR ME.
I'M AFRAID TO CROSS THAT LINE.
A FRIEND DID TELL ME...
WHEN I FEEL LONELY...
HE'D BE EVERYTHING I NEED...
OR SOMETHING

MAYBE IT'S JUST LONELI-NESS...?
WOULD YOU LIKE TO BE WITH HIM?
YEAH, A LITTLE...
SASAYA KEI WASN'T A CHILD OF THE MIZUHO CLAN FROM THE START, I ASSURE YOU
!
YOU KNEW?
YES
YOUR FATHER WAS WELL AWARE OF THIS.

Stop messing around with me!
There's seven left, right...!
THAT IS CORRECT.
You mean ...
I didn't have to meet them after all??
That's it! I won't see any of them anymore!
WHACK
IT WON'T HURT YOU TO SEE THEM.
IS THERE SOMETHING YOU'RE AFRAID OF?

What do you know about how this hurts?
Clatter
This hurts me...
HIKARU-KUN?
DID SEEING THEM BRING BACK BAD MEMORIES FOR YOU?

IT'S UNTRUE THAT YOUR FATHER ABANDONED YOU
MY FATHER LOVED ME?
YES, HE DID.
HIKARU,
YOU'RE A FINE BOY

I'VE GOT A LOT OF ISSUES ABOUT MY FATHER... A SEVERE FATHER COMPLEX.
THEN WHAT WOULD YOU LIKE ME TO BE?
I WANT YOU TO BE MY BLANKET...
I WANT TO SLEEP IN YOUR ARMS
WOULD YOU DO THAT FOR ME?

Shit...
I'm in serious danger of—

Dazed

MM.
DO YOU WANT TO CONTINUE WITH THIS TASK?
THOUGHTS OR TEXT MESSAGES IN ITCHY MIMM.

SO YOU'LL DO IT TO UNDERSTAND THE REASON BEHIND YOUR FATHER'S WISHES
UH-HUH
HE DIDN'T ASSIGN YOU THIS RESPONSIBILITY TO CAUSE YOU PAIN
THERE'S A GREAT DEAL HE WANTS TO CONVEY TO YOU.
I THINK WHAT HAPPENED HERE WAS A SMALL PART OF IT, TOO
THANKS FOR LAST NIGHT...

YOU REALLY DID
Not a mother complex, right?
DID I REALLY ADMIT TO HAVING A SEVERE FATHER COMPLEX?
Forced out of his familiar yet insular existence by the men around him, Hikaru feels strong attraction for the very first time?!
There's something about the suggestive smile of an older man
that's starting to make me a bit uneasy
Ciara
tbc

A Half-Baked Aarinfantasy Scanlation

Scanner: Yavannah

Translator: lyrebird

QCers: lyrebird & szlo

Editor: Yavannah

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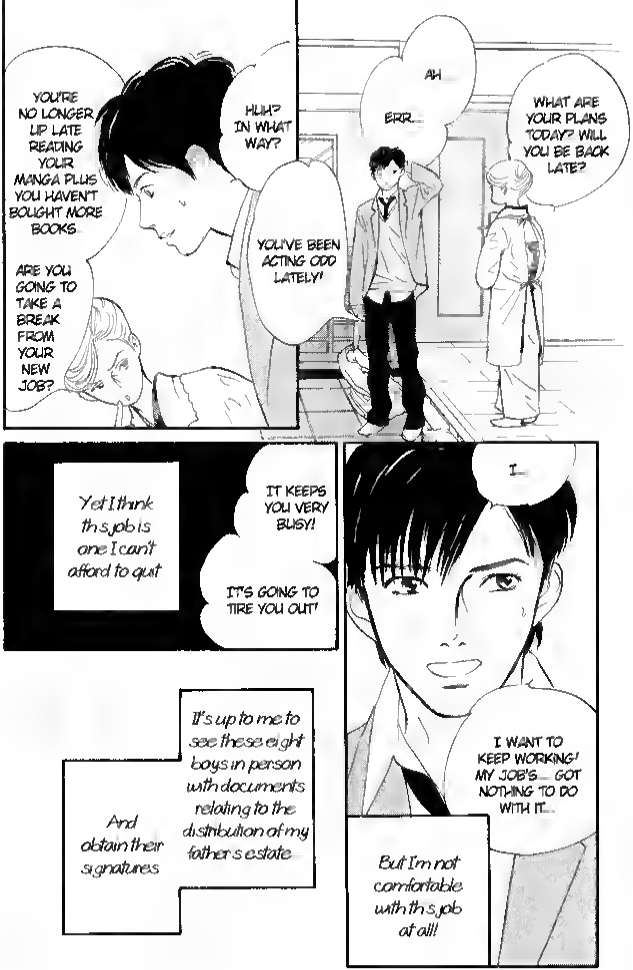
http://scanlations.aarinfantasy.com
and
http://lyrebird.aithine.org/halfbaked/

NANAHIKARI
contact.3

I was separated from my father when I was three years old.
He was a popular actor. When he died, I discovered he had eight illegitimate sons.
Naturally, they've been kept secret from my mother and the rest of society.
I'M GOING TO SCHOOL!
It would be especially awkward if my mother found out the truth.
WHA-
WHAT?
WAIT A MINUTE, HIKARU!


YOU'RE NO LONGER UP LATE READING YOUR MANGA PLUS YOU HAVEN'T BOUGHT MORE BOOKS.
ARE YOU GOING TO TAKE A BREAK FROM YOUR NEW JOB?
HUH? IN WHAT WAY?
YOU'VE BEEN ACTING ODD LATELY!
AH...
ERR...
WHAT ARE YOUR PLANS TODAY? WILL YOU BE BACK LATE?
Yet I think this job is one I can't afford to quit
IT KEEPS YOU VERY BUSY!
IT'S GOING TO TIRE YOU OUT!
I...
I WANT TO KEEP WORKING! MY JOB'S... GOT NOTHING TO DO WITH IT...
But I'm not comfortable with this job at all!
And obtain their signatures
It's up to me to see these eight boys in person with documents relating to the distribution of my father's estate...

I'm the one who eventually decides how to divide the estate
The stern look my mother gave me
means that she doesn't approve
OH?
THIS GUY'S THE SAME AGE AS ME!

Kunikake Yuuma, 17 years old.
Hang on
HOLD IT! HOLD IT!
Our birth-dates are only six months apart!
He's my older brother by six months?!
FATHER!!
HM?
THERE'S HIS CELL-PHONE NUMBER!
Cellphone number
090-713-5XXX

As I feared, there's no eye-catching boys around!
I wonder if this is the wrong school?
Although I've been traveling out here each day to search for the son of the late Mizuho Kazumitsu
OH-H!
But I have a hunch about that boy I saw before...
I'M NO HAG!
SHEESH! NOT AGAIN, YOU PESKY OLD HAG!
EH? YOU'RE NOT? SO WHAT DO YOU WANT WITH ME, LADY?
HEY YOU!!

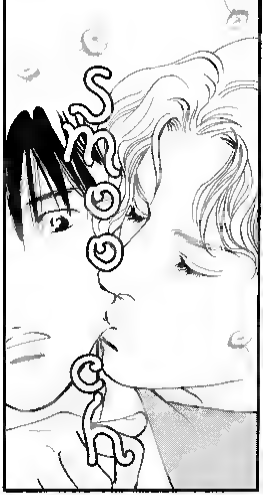
HUH? YOU SAY YOU WANT TO KNOW ABOUT HIKARU-CHAN?
YES, PLEASE TELL ME ABOUT HIM. HE'S SO CUTE-LOOKING!
REALLY?!
YOU FIND HIM CUTE? YOU THINK SO TOO?
I DO TOO!! HE'S REALLY CUTE! THE OTHER KIDS DON'T SEEM TO GET IT!
YOU CAN'T JUDGE THINGS LIKE THIS AT A GLANCE A GUY'S MASCULINITY, I MEAN
DEFINITELY, FOR SURE!
MM-HM!
his elegant fingers!
his clear skin!
his dreamy voice!
his skill at piano!
SKILLED AT PIANO, INTERESTED IN MANGA
REAL NAME NANAMURA HIKARU, AGE 17 SECOND-YEAR SENIOR HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT
AS I SUSPECTED! I'VE GOT A FEELING ABOUT THIS!
H3 H
BADUM BADUM
REALLY? JUST HIM AND HIS MOTHER?
BEEP BEEP
LIVES ALONE WITH HIS MOTHER, A SINGLE PARENT
HMM, I SEE

WHAT'S UP, NAZUNA?
HIKARU-CHAN, GOOD MORNING!
SHIT!
I BET IT'S HIS VOICE-MAIL AGAIN
YOU SERIOUS?
I'LL GET BACK AT ASHIKUMA FOR HIS LATEST INSULT!
I'LL SHOW HIM!
That's way too lame, Nazuna.
WRITE 'GOTCHA' ON THEM!
I'LL SCRAWL GRAFFITI ON HIS INDOOR SHOES WITH CRAYON!
WHY ARE YOU OUT TO GET HIM?
WHAT'S WITH YOU?
HE SAID HE'S GOING TO COMPETE AGAINST ME FOR YOUR AFFECTIONS, HIKARU-CHAN! THIS IS A DECLARATION OF WAR!
IT'S ME, BUT—
HELLO, SHIMOGURA-SAN?

Ahhh...
No, it's fine.
What is it?
IT'S ABOUT THAT GUY KUNIKAKE YUUMA. I'VE CALLED HIM BUT I'M ALWAYS DIVERTED TO VOICEMAIL.
ERR..
HUH?
ARE YOU BUSY AT THE MOMENT?
What do I do if I can't...
I SEE
WELL...

HE'S CRYING?!
EH?
Mmm...
I'll try making a call from here as well.
See you.
He sounded so strange
STEP
SOMEONE SENT YOU A TEXT MESSAGE?
*Words on shoe read: idiot and gotcha!
HUH? NO, NOT A MESSAGE I WAS TALKING TO THIS LAWYER
AH, ASHINUMA-SEMPAI!
A LAWYER?

YOU'RE SUCH AN ENIGMA!
BUT THAT JUST MAKES YOU EVEN MORE TEMPTING! ♡
WHAT'S WITH THAT LOOK ON YOUR FACE?
SALES OFFICE
WHAT LOOK? I CAN'T SEE MY OWN FACE, CAN I?
YOUR INDOOR SHOES...
CUTE, HUH?
DO YOU THINK SOMEONE'S DONE THIS AS A PRANK? OR COULD IT BE AN ACT OF LOVE?
I DOUBT IT'S AN ACT OF LOVE...
AH?
YOU THINK?
HMM...
REMEMBER, NANAMURA.
SLURP



YOU CAN ALWAYS DEPEND ON ME.

Kiss mark
What were you up to Ishizuma?

I've never disliked him to begin with
The problem is

...is uneasy about having me on his mind
I wonder if Ashinuma-sempai...
I'm falling for you...
Naturally I'm more self-conscious with a girl, plus they cause me more grief as well
But he's such a popular guy

KNOCK KNOCK
COME IN
SENSEI, IT'S TIME
UNDER-STOOD.
IN THAT CASE, ASK MY CLIENTS TO RE-BOOK THEIR APPOINTMENTS SINCE I INTEND TO CANCEL THIS AFTERNOON'S SCHEDULE.
RIGHT
ARE YOU FEELING UNWELL?
YES, SOME-THING LIKE THAT.
I'LL GET ONTO IT AT ONCE.
AHH

I MUST FOCUS AND REMAIN CALM.
Before my father married my mother, he had a disastrous affair with Shimizu.
Kunikake Yuuma's mother is the former actress Shimizu Sayuri.
Shortly after their break-up she retired then stunned everyone by marrying a businessman. Yuuma was born a year later.
She is currently a housewife who has one daughter in addition to her son Yuuma.

Does that mean
So he's got a younger sister
If he's truly the son of Mizuho Kazumitsu, he and his younger sister are siblings with different fathers?
It's possible
I wonder if this guy knows...
...who his real father is?
How should I behave when I meet him?
And if I do manage to contact him...

If I were in his shoes, would I be willing to accept such appalling news from a total stranger?
We're the same age
I couldn't possibly play with him the way I did with Kei
NAKAMURA
HERE IT IS. I'M CERTAIN OF IT.
RIGHT!
I'LL COME BACK LATER!

!
BINGO!
YAWWN!
CLICK
AHH, I'M FEELING MY AGE. THERE'S NO ESCAPING MY FONDNESS FOR THE ODD TIPPLE

HIS MOTHER?
CLICK
CLICK
Should I go and take a photo of her while I'm here?
Maybe his cell-phone number's disconnected, after all
But the way Shimogura-san acted the last time we met was a bit unnerving
I've got no choice but to talk this over with someone
Of course, the thought of meeting this guy right away makes me jittery

I'M SO SORRY.
SENSEI'S NOT IN SINCE HE'S BEEN UNWELL FOR THE PAST TWO OR THREE DAYS.
Plus he's an adult male
I SEE.
AS LONG AS IT'S URGENT BUSINESS, I CAN GIVE YOU HIS HOME ADDRESS. ALL RIGHT?
SURE.
WAIT A MINUTE.
My eyes can't help looking down
So he's unwell?
"I wonder if it's alright to see him. If I drop by his place without an invitation, I might be bothering him."

Staying overnight last time was ever passing.
Here it is
BEEP
BEEP
Who is it?
Hikaru-kun?
UMM... IT'S NANAMURA.
Come in.
That's fine.
THERE'S SOMETHING I'D LIKE TO TALK OVER WITH YOU, BUT I CAN COME ANOTHER TIME IF YOU PREFER.
WELCOME.

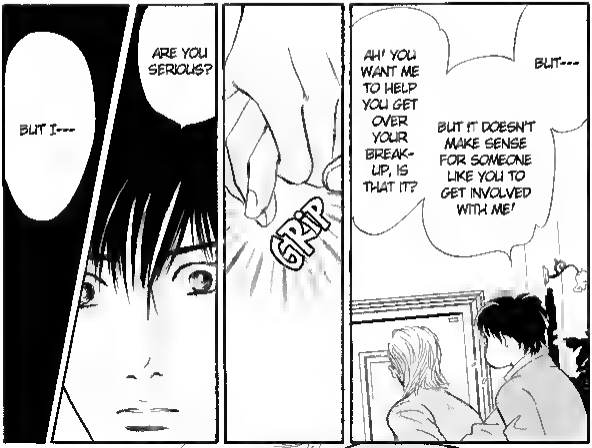
IT'S PERFECTLY FINE,
FOR YOU'RE MY CLIENT.
I'M RECEIVING A MOST GENEROUS REMUNERATION FEE FROM YOUR FATHER, SO THERE'S NO NEED FOR YOU TO BE RELUCTANT ON MY BEHALF.
I'M NOT BEING A NUISANCE, AM I?
LIKE I SAID, I CAN COME BACK LATER.
SINCE YOUR CALL, I'VE TRIED INITIATING CONTACT WITH KLINIKAKE-KUN MYSELF,
BUT IT SEEMS HIS CELLPHONE NUMBER HAS BEEN DISCONNECTED.
I REALIZE YOU'RE CONFUSED ABOUT HOW CLOSE HIS AGE IS TO YOURS.
I THOUGHT SO
SO BEFORE YOU MEET HIM IN PERSON, YOU'D LIKE SOME TIME TO PREPARE YOURSELF, HMM?

Note: Shimogura's speaking English on the phone

AFTER HEARING
THAT CALL JUST NOW...
SHIMOGU-RA-SAN?
YOU MIGHT THINK I WAS GOING TOO FAR BY YELLING LIKE THAT, BUT...
?
WHAT ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT?
I CAN'T CONTROL MYSELF ANY LONGER.

COME.
HUH?
ERR...
A PERCEPTIVE AND HANDSOME YOUNG MAN LIKE YOU...
THUD

AH!
I MEAN...
PERHAPS IT'S TIME FOR ME TO GO?
ABSOLUTELY.
...MUST HAVE SOME IDEA OF WHAT I'M FEELING RIGHT NOW, HMM?
HEY, THIS WAY.


ARE YOU SERIOUS?
BUT I---
GRIP
AH! YOU WANT ME TO HELP YOU GET OVER YOUR BREAK-UP, IS THAT IT?
BUT---
BUT IT DOESN'T MAKE SENSE FOR SOMEONE LIKE YOU TO GET INVOLVED WITH ME!

WHY? THIS IS HAPPENING SO FAST!

MMF!
SEIZE
I WANT YOU TO LET ME... HAVE MY WAY WITH YOU.

AH! THIS IS...
YOU'RE...
IT'S NOT CRAZY...
NO BUT...
THAT'S CRAZY!
BECAUSE YOU'RE OLD ENOUGH TO BE IN SENIOR HIGH.
I...
I AM, BUT-.

IT'S HELPING.
HELP EASE YOUR PAIN?
DOES THIS...

YOUR EYES...
THEY'RE BLUE...

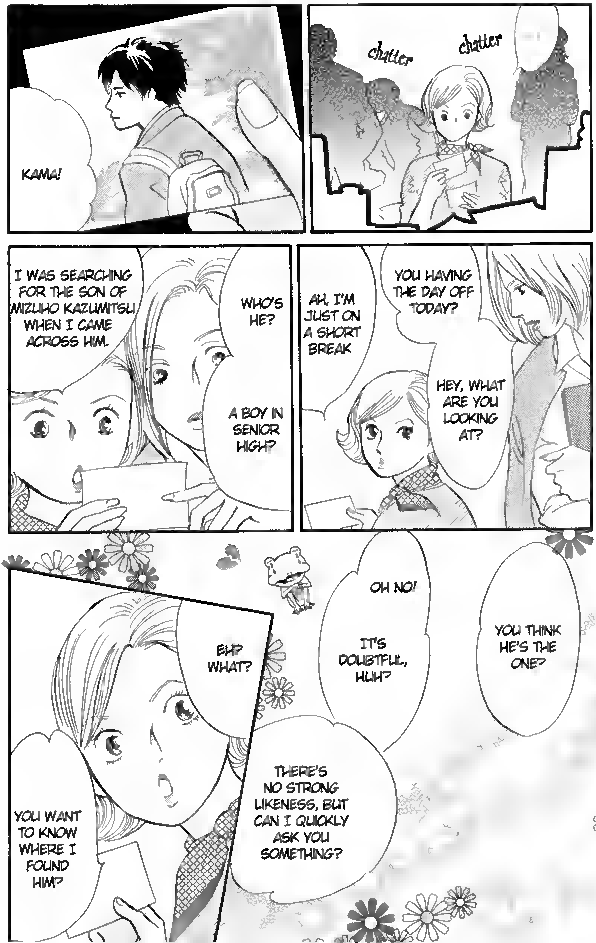
I STILL LOOK OVER MY GLASSES TO SEE DISTANT OBJECTS
I SUFFER FROM FAR-SIGHTEDNESS I CAN'T SEE CLOSE UP WITHOUT GLASSES CAN'T YOU TELL?
FEEL FREE TO DESPISE ME
sneak
FOR I'M ACCUSTOMED TO IT

IT'S NOTHING.
I DON'T DESPISE YOU.
YOU MUST. THIS CAN'T HAPPEN AGAIN

About Kunikake Yuuma
I'll start thinking about another way to make contact
SOON I'LL BE REVILED AND DESPISED BY YOU AS WELL.
IT'S ONLY A MATTER OF TIME.

But how?
A WAY TO TRACK HIM DOWN AND REACH HIM.
Busy re-- remembering.

WAAAH!
WASH!
WASH!
WASH!
Does Shimogura-san have a small mole near his mouth?
The sign of a man who will never go hungry


KAMA!
chatter
chatter
I WAS SEARCHING FOR THE SON OF MIZUHO KAZUMITSU WHEN I CAME ACROSS HIM.
WHO'S HE?
A BOY IN SENIOR HIGH?
AH, I'M JUST ON A SHORT BREAK
YOU HAVING THE DAY OFF TODAY?
HEY, WHAT ARE YOU LOOKING AT?
OH NO!
IT'S DOUBTFUL, HUH?
YOU THINK HE'S THE ONE?
EH? WHAT?
THERE'S NO STRONG LIKENESS, BUT CAN I QUICKLY ASK YOU SOMETHING?
YOU WANT TO KNOW WHERE I FOUND HIM?

HMM.
YOU KNOW, THIS BOY...
LOOKS EVEN BETTER IN THE FLESH!
SO? WHAT'S YOUR OPINION?
WHERE SHOULD I START? WITH HIS PHYSIQUE?
MY IMPRESSION OF HIM? I WOULDN'T CALL HIM STUNNING WITHOUT SOME QUALIFICATION.
BUT I WONDER IF HE'D BE SUITABLE
GROUP SHOTS! LET ME SEE SOME GROUP SHOTS!♡
YEAH?♡
IN DUE COURSE, RIEPON!
They're all in senior high!
AH! I'M LATE!
IT'S TIME FOR MY MEETING!

KAMAHORI HERE! I'M OFF TO ANOTHER MEETING!
HI!
RIGHT, RIGHT! SORRY FOR BEING LATE, KAMA-CHAN
HM?
rub
Hmm?! This woman is...

AHA!
FOUND IT!
AS I THOUGHT! SHE'S MIZUHO'S FORMER WIFE!
Then...
The boy with her... The boy in this photo
He's Mizuho's only son?!

HEY!
Check him out! Check him out!

WHOA! ARE YOU SERIOUS?!
That elite school?
WOW! ISN'T HE WEARING THE ASAOKA UNIFORM?
Asaoka Senior High?!
BUT HE'S GOT SEVERAL LOOSE EARRINGS!
AND BLOND HAIR!
Is it the same shade as Ryan's hair?

contact.3 END

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NANAHIKARI
contact.4

HM?
HEY THERE!
WHO'S THE GUY IN THAT ROOM?
AH!
OF COURSE
DO YOU KNOW NANAMURA HIKARU?
Why is she looking around?
I MEAN YOU! I'M TALKING TO YOU!

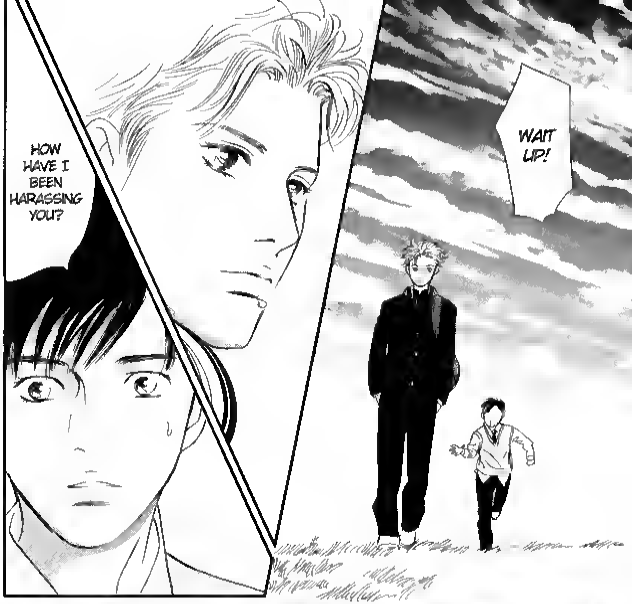
throb throb
Hmmh! You always hit girls you meet for the first time?
WHAT ARE YOU STARING AT?!
SO WHAT DO YOU WANT WITH HIKARU-CHAN?
IT'S NONE OF YOUR BUSINESS.
...
Slide
Music Room
Meanie!
OWWWW!

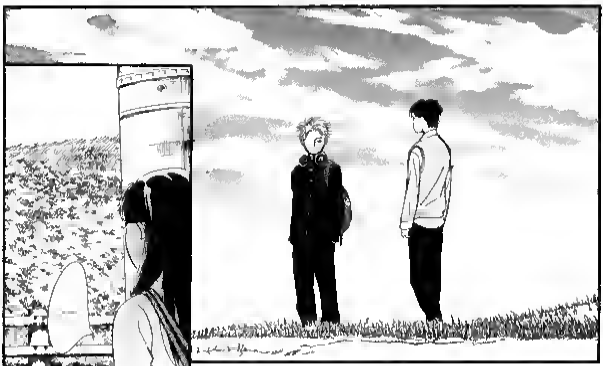
HEY! YOU'RE.

WHACK
.ma!
!
Kunikake Yuu ..
CRASH
Oww!
WHAT DO YOU THINK YOU'RE DOING?!
THAT'S ENOUGH!
HIKARU-CHAN!

HOLD IT! WHAT'S HIKARU-CHAN EVER DONE TO YOU!?
!
STOP HARASSING ME GOT IT?
YOU LISTEN UP!
ding dong
YOU RUNNING AWAY?

Grrr... Him?
ASHI-NUMA!
DON'T JUST STAND THERE! GRAB THAT GUY!
AH!
SORRY NAZUNA!
CONK
NANA-MURA?
THE BELL'S RUNG FOR CLASS!
HIKARU CHAN.
What a morning. It's one disaster after another


HOW HAVE I BEEN HARASSING YOU?
WAIT UP!



SIT DOWN
HITTING YOU OUT OF THE BLUE WAS A LAME THING TO DO
DO YOU PLAY SHOGI?
NO, BUT I PLAY GO AND READ MANGA...
A SLAVE TO THE LATEST CRAZE, HUH?

Shogi Japanese chess

I DON'T NEED SOME INHERITANCE FROM SOME STRANGER.
Is this about the calls to his cellphone?
SNAP
IT'S EASY I'LL SHOW YOU.
MY FIRST THOUGHT WHEN I GOT YOUR CALL WAS
"WHY BOTHER CONTACTING ME AFTER ALL THESE YEARS?"
Now that I'm seeing him in the flesh...

Yuuma does resemble my father
He's got the same clean-cut looks
The media will be in a frenzy over him. They'll declare that the actor Mizuho Kazumitsu's left behind a son worthy to carry on his legacy
He looks a lot more like him than I do
IT'S TROUBLE WE CAN DO WITHOUT.

IF WORD GETS OUT—
HUH?
...THAT MY SISTER AND I HAVE DIFFERENT FATHERS.
IT'LL ONLY BRING US TROUBLE.

CLACK
ONLY MY LITTLE SISTER HAS ANY IDEA.
NO ONE ELSE HAS PICKED UP ON IT.
?
YOUR TURN
pat
pat
CHECK!
IN THAT CASE... I'LL MOVE HERE
CLACK
HMPH! THE LANCE CAN'T MOVE DIAGONALLY.
CAN I GO HERE?
ERR
CLACK

I'M NOT INTERESTED IN A SINGLE PENNY OF HIS FORTUNE
SO THAT'S WHY YOU SHOULD LEAVE ME ALONE I DON'T WANT YOU MAKING TROUBLE FOR ME AND MY FAMILY
OH NO!
HE HASN'T SIGNED THE DOCUMENTS!
SEMPAI
A FRIEND OF YOURS?
BUT WHAT HAVE YOU GOT IN COMMON?
WHO'S HE?

HMPH
WHAT IF I SAID THAT GUY WAS THE SON OF MIZUHO KAZUMITSU?
Ugh! I should've kept my mouth shut---
NOW THAT YOU MENTION IT I NEVER GOT A GOOD LOOK AT HIM, BUT...
I THINK YOU LOOK A LOT MORE LIKE HIM THAN THAT GUY FUNNY, HUH?
Huh? Have I just outed myself?

What was that?
EH?
WE'RE IN FOR IT NOW, SEMPAI!
I'LL BE FINE
Ding Dong
NO WAY!
IS FIRST PERIOD OVER?
Chika (age 16) Kyoumi Girls College
His younger sister
That's odd for one thing. She's in high school as well?

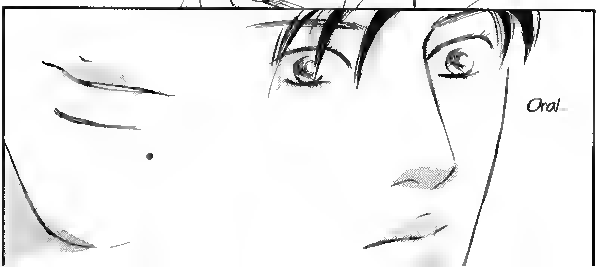
WHAM!
HIKARU!
WHAT HAVE YOU GOT HERE?
!
GLARE
ALL THESE NOTES— DETAILING THE LIFE OF SHIMIZU SAYURI?
WERE YOU PEEKING AT YOUR MOTHER'S DIARY JUST NOW?
SNATCH
WHY ON EARTH ARE YOU DIGGING UP INFORMATION ABOUT AN OLD FLAME OF YOUR FATHER'S?!

HIKARU! WHAT'S YOUR GOAL IN DREDGING UP THE PAST? YOU KNOW NOTHING! NOTHING! YOU ALONE ARE MIZUHO'S SON!
YOU HEAR ME?!
YOU CAN'T BE SERIOUS...
YOU WANT THE FACTS?
MIZUHO COULD NEVER SAY FOR SURE, AND SINCE HE'S DEAD NOW WE'LL NEVER KNOW... WHICH MEANS SAYURI'S SON CAN NEVER BE RECOGNIZED AS MIZUHO'S!
I HEAR YOU.
Me
Alone
I'm afraid there's little we can do about your mother's distress.
BUT KEI TURNED OUT NOT TO BE HIS CHILD, SO IT'S POSSIBLE THAT---

So he's got the attorney's seal of approval
He is your older brother.
KUNIKAKE YUUMA IS DEFINITELY A CHILD OF THE MIZUHO CLAN.
But...
What about the inheritance?
Did he say he'd renounce it?

YOU KNOW, ABOUT WHAT WE...
THEN I WISH YOU THE BEST OF LUCK
HIS SIGNATURE... I FORGOT TO ASK HIM...

Do you enjoy provoking an adult man?
EH?
I suggest you put it out of your mind.
NO NOT AT ALL. WHY WOULD I WANT TO PROVOKE...
WELL THEN, IF YOU DON'T WANT TO SATISFY MY ORAL FIXATION,
I SUGGEST YOU BRING ME SWEETS THE NEXT TIME WE MEET.


Oral

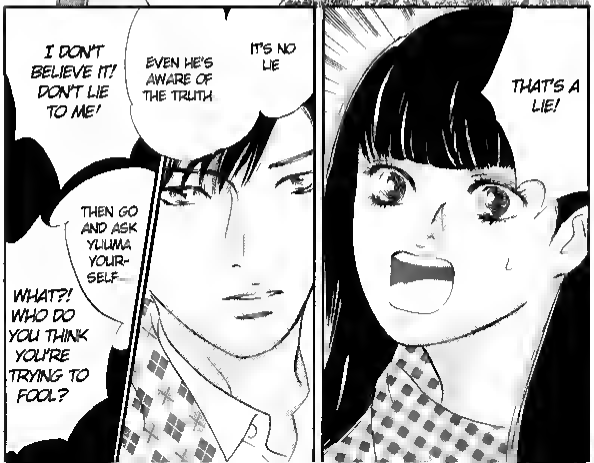
BEEP

That must be what he's up to. Teasing me like this.
How do you intend to make it up to me?
IT WAS YOU, WASN'T IT?
YESTERDAY YOU WERE WITH YUJIMA.
WHO ARE YOU?

I GUESS YUUMA MUST'VE LEFT HIS SHOGI SET BEHIND
Only my little sister has any idea
AH, RIGHT.
KUNIKAKE CHIKA.
I'VE GOT IT HERE
YUUMA'S AN AMATEUR, BUT HE'S A STRONG PLAYER
HE'S WON LOTS OF TITLES
HUH? I SEE
DID YOU KNOW THAT MIZUHO KAZUMITSU...
I LIKED PLAYING SHOGI AS WELL?
RUMOR HAS IT HE WAS A PRETTY STRONG PLAYER TOO

YUUMA IS...
TELL ME SOME-THING.
HMMPH
I didn't know
—THE SON OF MIZUHO-SAN, ISN'T HE?
WHAT DO YOU MEAN?
YOU HEARD ME.
I FIGURED IT OUT AFTER CLOSELY WATCHING MY MOTHER'S BEHAVIOR.
YUUMA AND I—
WE'VE GOT DIFFERENT FATHERS, HAVEN'T WE?

YOU'RE WRONG.
KUNIKAKE YUUMA ISN'T THE SON OF MIZUHO KAZUMITSU.
YOU'VE GOT THE SAME PARENTS, SO YOU SHOULD CONSIDER YOURSELF YUUMA'S TRUE SISTER.


I DON'T BELIEVE IT! DON'T LIE TO ME!
EVEN HE'S AWARE OF THE TRUTH
IT'S NO LIE
THAT'S A LIE!
THEN GO AND ASK YUUMA YOURSELF
WHAT?! WHO DO YOU THINK YOU'RE TRYING TO FOOL?

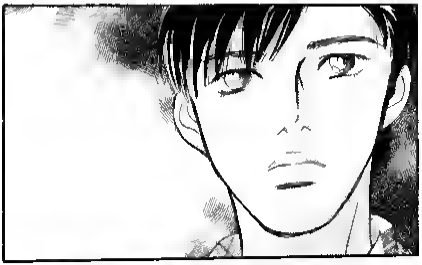
YUUMA LOOKS A LOT MORE LIKE HIM THAN YOU!
I'M CERTAIN YUUMA'S HIS ONLY REAL SON!
I CAN'T BELIEVE SOMEONE LIKE YOU CAN CLAIM TO BE THE SON OF MIZUHO KAZUMITSU!
YOU'RE NOTHING LIKE HIM AT ALL!

DIDN'T WE COME TO SCHOOL?
Is he absent?
EH?
WHERE'S HIKARU-CHAN?
まんが喫茶
ヨシダ ドーム
まんが喫茶
Sign small writing: manga cafe, Big writing: Yoshida Dome

HE'S YOUR OLDER BROTHER.
Kunikake
Kya-haha! Nooo!

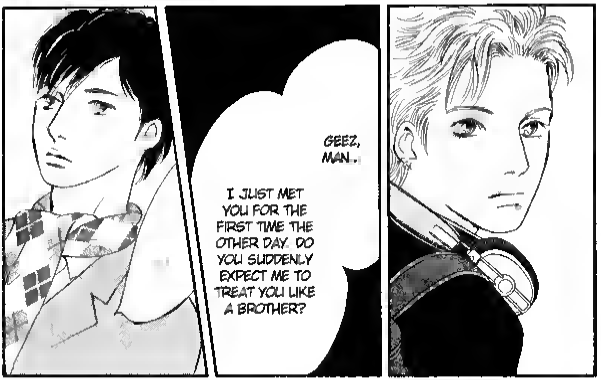
HIKARU!
YOU'RE GOING TO BE LATE FOR SCHOOL!
I'm back again!
Oh?
Who's he?
A friend?
But his uniform's different!

SANKYUU FOR YESTERDAY.
WHAT FOR?
THE STUFF YOU TOLD CHIKA.
TELLING HER SHE WAS MY TRUE SISTER.
I APPRECIATE THE FAVOR.
YOU HELPED ME A LOT.
FROM THE WAY SHE RAVED ABOUT YOU, SHE SOUNDED LIKE SHE'S GOT A CRUSH ON YOU.
DO YOU THINK SHE'LL BELIEVE IT?
YEAH, I CAN IMAGINE
BUT I CAN'T DO ANYTHING ABOUT IT, CAN I?
I DON'T FEEL THE SAME ABOUT HER.



BECAUSE TO ME, SHE'LL ALWAYS BE MY LITTLE SISTER.

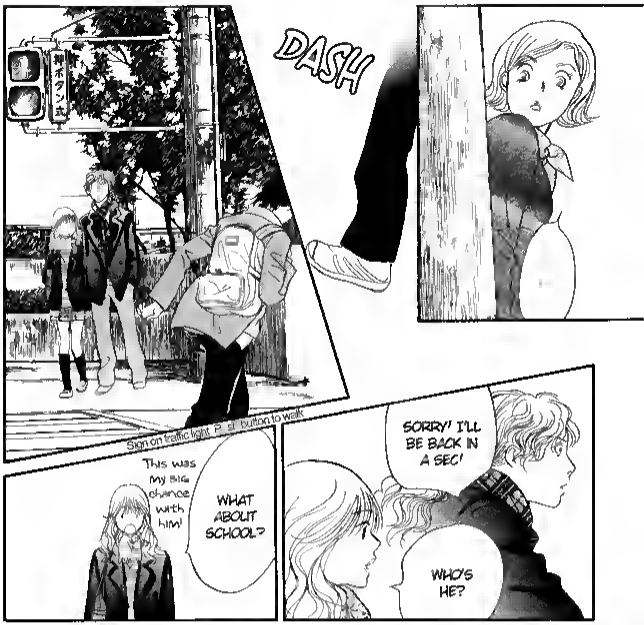
BUT... YOU DO ACCEPT WE'RE BROTHERS, DON'T YOU?



GEEZ, MAN..

I JUST MET YOU FOR THE FIRST TIME THE OTHER DAY. DO YOU SUDDENLY EXPECT ME TO TREAT YOU LIKE A BROTHER?

AS FAR AS I'M CONCERNED, I DON'T HAVE A BROTHER.
I'VE ONLY GOT CHIKA, MY LITTLE SISTER.
YO!


DASH
Sign on traffic light: P...s button to walk
This was my big chance with him!
WHAT ABOUT SCHOOL?
SORRY! I'LL BE BACK IN A SEC!
WHO'S HE?
WAIT UP!
NANA-MURA!

LET ME GO!

NANA-
MURA!
MMF!

THAT BETTER?
HMM?
NANAMURA, YOU'RE...
... A VERY GOOD KISSER!

I WONDER IF YOU'VE BEEN TAUGHT HOW TO KISS BY SOMEONE ELSE
IT CAN'T BE NAZLINA.
AM I?
EH?
DON'T LIE TO ME.
ABOUT WHAT?
WAS IT A MAN? A WOMAN?
HUH?
WHAT MAN?
SNIP
HUH?
WHAT?
YOU'VE BEEN UP TO SOMETHING!

WHY WERE YOU CRYING?
WHY? I GUESS IT WAS...
NOTHING IMPOR-TANT.
I JUST FELT SO ALONE ALL OF A SUDDEN

I forgot to get his signature on those documents again...
Oh no!
HMM?
WE SHOULD BE GOING TO SCHOOL NOW...
SEMPAI...
REALLY?

Shimogu-
-ra-san?

Could he
Ah!
JUMP
have seen me?
A typical day in the life of Kamahon, entertainment reporter
That boy! I know I've seen him some-where!
contact.4
END

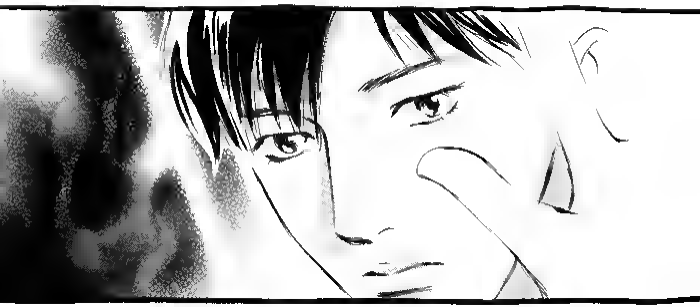
NANAHIKARI
SATOSUMI TAKAGUCHI
PRESENTS

Afterword

Thank you so much for taking the time to read "Nanahikari."
To come up with this story, I've hijacked a familiar theme of mine. the quiet boy who charms everyone he meets with his bewitching aura (To Y-san. Huh? I didn't realize it at the time!) Well, that's how it's panned out! (laughs)

Although I'm a quiet and reserved person by nature, I m very keen to take written testimonials from those of you who ve had encounters with individuals who possess a bewitching aura (I'm half-serious here!)

But personally speaking - my original idea was to create a character who was a likable show-off (but not consciously so.) Ages ago, I was advised to closely scrutinize a certain Harajuku fashion-retailer from head to toe for inspiration. (Was this person originally from Osaka? Apologies if I'm mistaken.) He had a buttoned-down, conservative look, but I must admit I wasn't very interested in creating a character with that kind of personality at first.



But that's the way I am! Where does one draw the line between being too extroverted and too introverted, anyway?? Take a performer for example - the strength or weakness of their onstage presence will influence the audience's response, right? The one with the striking profile, the one who's the most flamboyant and outgoing - chances are that individual will have the greatest appeal.

This story is filled with characters that possess all the traits I'm infatuated with. When I think hard about it, this latest work is a lot like all my other works. At my age, I don't have the discipline to keep my obsessive tendencies in check any longer!

My favorite traits
1. Cool-looking glasses
2. Long hair
3. At the moment, any trait that makes a character lovable.

Come to think of it... I adore long hair so much that it's even influenced the way I arranged the panels of this story.

But really... there's actually a shortage of drawing assistants willing to draw characters with glasses! Despite that problem, a major character with spectacles does manage to make an appearance. I had to take on this tricky task myself! Memo to all my assistants: I want to move to a country where no one wears glasses!

About point 3 - since I've found that the traits I personally find lovable has changed over time, well... I'm not about to retract the things I've written above but I believe that as long as a boy's preferences remain fixed and constant, he might never undergo dramatic transformation and growth into an adult man.

For now, I'll just warn you that in due course you're going to receive a great shock! It's got something to do with a male character who's still alive and has the greatest influence on the plot! (ouch!)

NOTE this page featured handwritten notes from the mangaka about her latest hobbies and interests such as playing Nintendo Wii and watching DVDs Unfortunately t has been left untranslated due to time contraints

"Nanahikari" is about one boy's journey to find his eight half-brothers, each of them born to different mothers.

According to a friend of mine, this story riffs off the same plotline as "Hakkenden"! KYAA! Was that a quick spoiler?! It's more entertaining to read and find out what will happen next yourself, right? So please continue to follow and support Hikaru-kun, the quiet hero with the strangely bewitching aura about him.

With his sempai and the attorney (both older men) circling with growing impatience around him, there's going to be a tug-of-war and plot twists galore as each of them competes for Hikaru's affections.

But if this is turning into "Hakkenden," I'll make sure not to include a dog in the story! (NOT!)

* Translator note: Hakkenden is an anime series based on the supernatural Edo novel written by Bakin Kyokutei. The story is about eight warrior brothers separated at birth who share a demonically possessed dog as their father.